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37, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

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All Sorts of  
**Artistic Printing**  
done at the CHINA MAIL OFFICE  
CENTRE  
PROGRAMME  
INVITATION CARDS  
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Moderate Prices.

No. 14,554

號七十二月九年百九千一英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1909.

日五十月十年元號宣

PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month.



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No. 4  
**SCOTCH WHISKY**  
Sole Agents in  
HONGKONG,  
CHINA &  
MANILA.  
**A.S. Watson & Co., Ltd.**  
As supplied to the  
House of Lords  
and  
House of Commons.

**CHINA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO., LTD. OF SHANGHAI**  
DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.  
Alexander McLeod, Esq., Chairman.  
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Loe Yung Su, Esq.,  
J. H. M. Macdonald, Esq.,  
J. A. Wattie, Esq., Managing Director.  
J. A. Hughes, Esq., Secretary.  
S. B. Neill, F.I.A., Actuary.  
A strong British Corporation Registered under Hong Kong Ordinances and under Life Assurance Companies' Acts, England.  
Insurance in Force.....\$24,054,169.00.  
Assets.....7,114,490.08.  
Income for Year.....3,023,834.81.  
Total Security to Policy-holders.....7,885,852.53.

**FROST AND FRUIT GROWING.**  
(Continued.)  
In a recent number of the Illustrated London News is a full-page picture, by Cyrus Conans, of American fruit growers in Grand Valley, Colorado, working to save their crop, worth 3,000,000 dollars, from the frost.

Twenty-seven miles of orchard were heated by fires, kept burning all night during the inclement weather. The farmers and hundreds of volunteers worked day and night preparing and lighting these fires. Both coal and oil were used, and the fires were lighted in pots, from 60 to 80 pots being needed for each acre. As a result of this great undertaking the temperature of this huge expanse of orchard was raised 8 degrees above that of the surrounding country, and the whole fruit crop was saved from destruction.

We look upon America as a country for new ideas and large enterprises, but in this case the device is not a new one. It has been in use, on a small scale, for hundreds of years among the vinegrowers of the Austrian Tyrol.

Every year, early in May, comes a critical time for the vines, then just bursting into leaf and blossom. A night or two of sharp frost is apt to occur, and blight the vines to such an extent that the entire crop is imperilled. So frequently does this sudden change of weather occur about the same time each year, that the Tyrolese peasants call the 6th and 6th of May—the vigil and feast of St. Sophia—the days of the “evil St. Sophia.” All night a watch is kept, and when the temperature falls low an alarm is sounded. Immediately the dark vineyards are alive with sturdy peasants in their picturesque national dress, who light great bonfires at the windward side of the vineyard, so that the heat may be carried over the young vines, and the nip of the frost may be averted.

The watchman of the vineyard is a recognized member of the community. He is called a “Saltnitz,” and is distinguished by his peculiar and imposing head dress of straw and feathers, no doubt calculated to strike awe into the hearts of any evil doers who may be meditating a raid on the vineyard. He carries a staff and spear, and is of course most in evidence as the time of harvest draws near and when in the golden Autumn days the purple clusters hang ripe and tempting, and the time of anxious uncertainty is passed.

**Business Notices.**  
**W. S. BAILEY & Co., Ltd.**  
ENGINEERS AND SHIPBUILDERS.  
OFFICES AND WORKS,  
KOWLOON CITY ROAD.  
TELEPHONE, K. 21.

**PURE DRINKING WATER.**  
**BERKEFELD FILTERS**  
DRIP FILTERS IN GLASS AND STONEWARE.  
**Pump Filters.**  
**Pressure Filters.**  
Prices on application.

**VICTORIA DISPENSARY.**  
**THE HONGKONG HOTEL.**  
UNRIVALED FOR COMFORT AND CUISINE.  
THOROUGHLY UP TO DATE WITH EVERY MODERN LUXURY.  
MODERATE TERMS AND NO EXTRAS.  
DINING AT LIFIN & DINNER.  
A. F. DAVIES, Manager.

**PEAK HOTEL.**  
ADAMANTLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP.  
Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.  
OPEN to the South Wind in Summer and protected from the North-east Wind in Winter. Commanding magnificent view of Hongkong, the Harbour and adjacent islands for forty miles.  
A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL AND TOURIST HOTEL.  
Terms:—From \$5 per day. Max. Telephone Add: “Peaceful.”  
Town Office: 4, Des Vaux Road.  
Hongkong, February 8, 1908.

**THEATRE ROYAL.**  
**TO-NIGHT!**  
Continued Success! Continued Success!  
OF THE WORLD FAMOUS COMPANY OF ENTERTAINERS  
**THE MERRYMAKERS**  
**THE MERRYMAKERS**  
Finishing their season on Saturday, December 11th.  
**TO-NIGHT LAST NIGHT OF PRESENT PROGRAMME**  
**TO-MORROW**  
COMPLETE CHANGE OF PROGRAMME.  
New Songs, New Dances, New Sketches.  
A BRILLIANT PROGRAMME BY A  
**Brilliant Company.**  
Box Plans at S. MOUTRIE & Co.  
PRICES AS USUAL.  
Hongkong, December 1, 1909.

**NOTICE.**  
HAVING been appointed AGENTS in Hongkong for the WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY, we are prepared to accept approved European and Chinese risks at current rates.  
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON.  
Hongkong, August 1909.

**NIGHT STEAMER TO CANTON.**  
New Twin Screw Steamer.  
**S.S. SAN CHEUNG**  
Fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans supplied in all cabins.  
(Captain J. McGarry).  
LEAVES Hongkong for Canton at 9 p.m. on SUNDAY, TUESDAY & THURSDAY.

Leave Canton for Hongkong at 8.30 a.m. on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY.  
Fare, 1st Class.....\$2.50 single passage.  
Males.....\$1 each.  
Servants, passage must be paid for.  
**CHEUNG ON STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.**  
No. 235, Des Vaux Road Central.  
Hongkong, November 12, 1909.

**Business Notices.**  
**THE PERFECT LUBRICANT.**  
**Fleming's Patent Solidified Oil.**  
SAVES TIME AND MONEY.  
Used throughout the World on nearly all the Steamers of the First-class Lines, for the entire satisfaction of Engineers and Owners.  
THE MOST ECONOMICAL LUBRICANT KNOWN.  
ABSOLUTELY PURE AND PERFECT IN EFFICIENCY.  
GUARANTEED FREE FROM ACID AND WATER.  
DOES NOT MELT (OR RUN) UNDER 32° FAHR.  
A. B. FLEMING & CO., Ltd., Patentees & Manufacturers,  
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Sole Local Agents:  
**BRADLEY & CO., 4, Queen's Building, HONG KONG.**

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TELEPHONE No. 97.  
**CHRISTMAS SPECIALITIES.**  
**NEW SEASONS FRUITS**  
VALENCIA RAISINS, SULTANAS, ZANTE CURRANTS, &c.  
**CHRISTMAS**  
**PUDDINGS, CAKES, MINCEMEAT.**  
Pulled Figs, Muscatels, Carlsbad and Elvas Plums.

**ENGLISH & FRENCH CONFECTIONERY**  
FANCY BOXES OF CHOCOLATES AND SWEETS.  
**CRYSTALLIZED FRUITS.**  
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**STILTON & GORGONZOLA CHEESE.**  
**TABLE DECORATIONS**  
CRACKERS. COCAQUES.  
A LARGE SELECTION OF  
**TOYS AND DOLLS.**  
**USEFUL PRESENTS**  
**IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.**  
**LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.**

**ASK FOR**  
**O. B.**  
**BEER and ALE**  
(Guaranteed Absolutely Free of all injurious preservatives).  
In Cases of 4 Doz. QUARTS or 6 Doz. PINTS.  
Beer - \$12.00. Ale - \$14.00.  
Order from your dealer or from the  
**ORIENTAL BREWERY, LTD.**  
Depot: 55-57, Des Vaux Road.  
Telephone 177. P. O. Box 230.

**DIAMONDS AND GEM-SET JEWELLERY**  
Rings, Brooches, Ear-rings, Pins, Pendants, Hair-combs, Charms, Chains, Links, &c.  
**Jade Stone and Chinese Made Gold Jewellery.**  
**GOLD & SILVER WATCHES, CLOCKS, OPTICAL GOODS.**  
Repairs of Watches and Jewellery effected by experienced Europeans.  
**J. ULLMANN & CO.**  
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**THE GRAND CARLTON HOTEL**  
8 and 10, Ice House Road.  
THE ONLY FIRST-CLASS FAMILY HOTEL IN HONGKONG.  
MAINTAINS ITS REPUTATION FOR COMFORT AND CLEANLINESS.  
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**Business Notices.**  
**GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.**  
**PORTLAND CEMENT**  
In Casks of 375 lbs. net, \$5.50 per Cask, ex Factory.  
In Bags of 250 lbs. net, \$3.45 per Bag, ex Factory.  
**Shewan, Tomes & Co.,**  
GENERAL MANAGERS.

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ARE SHOWING  
**NEW GOLFERS**  
LATEST DESIGNS  
**CLOTH SUITS AND COATS.**  
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7 & 9, FEDDER STREET. TELEPHONE 644.  
**REGRET**  
YOU WILL NEVER if you Visit MOHIDEEN & THANA in D'Aguilar Street, the new JEWELLERS and DEALERS in  
**CEYLON PRECIOUS STONES**  
AND OTHER GEMS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.  
Hongkong, September 1, 1909.

**ORIENTAL HOTEL**  
No. 2, Queen's Road Central.  
A THOROUGHLY FIRST-CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE HOTEL.  
SITUATED in the most central position. Large and Airy Rooms. Hot and Cold Water Bath. Gas and Electric Light. Cuisine entirely under European Supervision. Private Bar and Billiard Room. Monthly Rates for Table and Dinner. Terms moderate.  
**FREDERICK REICHMANN, Proprietor & Manager.**  
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Telephone No. 107. Telegrammatic Address: “Comstar,” Hongkong.  
Hongkong, December 1, 1909.

**ASTOR HOUSE HOTEL**  
(LATE CONNAUGHT HOTEL).  
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
CENTRALLY situated, up-to-date Hotel. Recently renovated and under entirely New Management. Large and Comfortable Rooms. Excellent Cuisine, under the supervision of an experienced French Chef.  
PARTICULARS AND RATES on application to MANAGER.  
L. GAMEAU, Proprietor.  
Hongkong, October 3, 1909.

**KELLY & WALSH, LTD.**  
Actions and Reactions, by Rudyard Kipling.....\$1.75  
The White Frolic, by W. Chambers.....1.75  
Diamond Out Faste, by A. and E. Ouse.....1.75  
The Paladin, by H. A. Vachell.....1.75  
The Haven, by Eden Philpotts.....1.75  
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ANGLO-CHINESE EXHIBITION, by W. A. Rivers, 2nd Edition.....75  
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Pictorial Log of the U.S. Battle Fleet Cruises Around the World, by R. J. Miller.....2.50  
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CHRISTMAS STORIES  
Graphic, illus. Luc. New, Holy Leaves, Black and White, Pastel, Sketch, Gentlemen, etc.  
The IMPERIAL ANGLO-CHINESE DIARY, 1910.....\$1.50  
The IMPERIAL ANGLO-CHINESE DATE BOOK.....50  
Standard Works, Poets, Devotional Books, Pocket Editions of Kipling, Dickens, Thackeray, etc., in Artistic Leather Bindings.

**Kupper's Pilsener Beer.**  
The Leading Beer in the Far East.  
Sole Agents  
**Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.**  
Wine & Spirit Merchants.  
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## G. FALCONER & Co.

### WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS.

### HOTEL MANSIONS.

NEW SELECTIONS OF  
JEWELLERY AND ENGLISH SILVER WARE  
HIGH-CLASS GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.  
LARGE SELECTION OF PRESENTATION PLATE, CUPS, BOWLS, ETC.  
G. FALCONER & Co. ARE AGENTS FOR ROSS'S FAMOUS TELESCOPES AND  
BINOCULARS, LORD KEEVING'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, AND  
ADMIRALTY CHARTS AND BOOKS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE EMPIRE TYPEWRITER.

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Nos. 47, 48 and 49, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, PROVISION MERCHANTS, COAL  
MERCHANTS, &c., &c., OF FIFTY YEARS STANDING.  
SHIP CAPTAINS ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE US A TRIAL.  
FRANCISCO TSE YAT, General Manager.

Hongkong, August 12, 1908.

## MEE CHEUNG & CO.,

### ART PHOTOGRAPHER, ICE HOUSE LANE.

SPECIALIST IN ENLARGING AND BROMIDE WORK.  
Select Views of Hongkong and South China.  
Special Department for Developing and Printing for Amateurs.  
CAMERAS FOR HIRE.

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## THE VIENNA CAFE COMPANY, LIMITED,

### No. 34, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. TELEPHONE No. 824.

BEGET to notify the Public that a modern and up-to-date BAKERY and CAFE under  
exclusively European management has been OPENED at the above entirely  
rebuilt and modernized premises.  
The latest sanitary improvements employed. Strictest cleanliness all over the place.  
Use only First-class Flour and other Materials.

The Company has secured the services of Messrs. J. Bouman and A. Sokolowski  
for the Bakery and Confectionery Departments. The long experience of both Gen-  
tlemen in up-to-date establishments on the Continent is the best guarantee that only the  
best ever produced in the Colony will be supplied.

The Patronage of the Public is respectfully solicited.  
Hongkong, September 13, 1908.

## CHAMPAGNE

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT TO

G. H. MUNN & Co.

REIMS



Shewan Tomes & Co.

GENERAL AGENTS

HONG-KONG, CANTON  
& MACAO.

Hongkong, January 27, 1909.

## MATHEUS MUELLER

'BRAND EXTRA'

SPECIAL CHAMPAGNE

Purveyors to H. I. M. the Emperor of Germany and  
14 other BEIGNING houses.

## A. C. MEUKOW & Co.

COGNAC CHARENTE.

FINE CHAMPAGNE BRANDY.

GRANDE CHAMPAGNE BRANDY 1858.

GRANDE CHAMPAGNE BRANDY 1842.

As Supplied to

NORDD. LLOYD, HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINE, MES-  
SAGERIES MARITIMES, LEVANTE LINE, SHIRE  
LINE, KOSMOS LINE & CITIZEN LINE of Steamers  
and others. At many highly important Banquets it is  
the only brandy served.

BUMANN AND BERBLINGER,

15, 16 & 17, Connaught Road.

Telephone No. 427.

Hongkong, May 5, 1908.

**WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH**  
**WELLINGTON SILVERSMITH'S**  
**BLACK LEAD SOAP** FOR CLEANING  
PLATE.  
**POLYBRILLIANT METAL POMADE**  
NEVER BECOMES DRY & HARD LIKE OTHER METAL PASTES.  
JOHN OAKLEY & SONS LIMITED, "WELLINGTON MILLS" LONDON.

## Intimations.

**MITSU BISHI GOSHI KWAISHA**  
(MITSU BISHI CO.)  
COAL DEPARTMENT.

SOLE PROPRIETORS OF TAKA  
SIMA, OCHI, MUTABE, HOJO,  
NAMAOKA, SAYO, SHINNEW  
and KAMITAMADA Collieries.

SOLE AGENTS FOR KISHIDAKE, MI-  
YAO, and KIGIO-KOMATSU Coal.

HEAD OFFICE: TOKYO.  
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Nagasaki, Moji, Karatsu,  
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Tr. Addresses for above: 'IWASAKI'  
Codes:—A1, ABO 5th Ed., Western Union.

AGENCIES:  
YOKOHAMA: M. Asada, Esq.  
CHINKIANG: Messrs Gearing &  
Co.  
MANILA: Messrs Macondray &  
Co.

For particulars, apply to  
H. OISHI,  
Manager,  
No. 2, PRINCE STREET,  
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, January 9, 1909.

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Swatow Fong King Work Co.

No. 33, WELLINGTON STREET.  
Manufacturers Wholesale and Retail.  
Dealers in all kinds of hand-made drawn  
Chinese linen, grass cloth, &c., &c.,  
all of the best quality.  
Also Best Swatow Paper, Wares,  
Cotton Embroidery and Chinese Lacas,  
all from the latest French patterns.  
Hongkong, November 2, 1908.

1492

DON'T BETCH IN BATHES!!

WHEN you may have ALL the Com-  
forts at less cost at  
THE WATKINS,  
43, Robinson Road.

Newly decorated and fitted with every  
modern convenience.  
Cuisine unexcelled.  
Tennis Court.  
Terms, Just Right!  
Mrs W. H. EMBRELEY,  
Proprietress.

Hongkong October 28, 1908.

1363

OWEN B. WILKS & Co.,

GENERAL & COMMISSION  
AGENT.

STOCKS KEPT OF  
SHIPOWNERS ANTIPOULING  
COMPOSITIONS  
FOR SHIPS BOTTOMS (GASTROUS) BRAND.

ANTI-FRICTION METALS,  
GRIPOLY BELTING,  
METALLIC FILAMENT and other  
ELECTRIC LAMPS, FANS AND  
SUPPLIES.

46, Connaught Road Central.

TELEGRAM, WANI KROOS. TEL. 308.

Hongkong, August 2, 1908.

977

CHEE WING & Co. 致

21, 22 and 23, LEE YUEN STREET (WEST)

HONGKONG.

DEALERS IN  
All Sorts of COPPER, BRASS, STEEL,  
IRON WARE, &c.

STEEL GIRDERS AND TEES,  
CORRUGATED IRON, FIG IRON, &c.

Suitable for  
SHIPS, HOUSES AND HOUSE BUILDERS.

Telephone No. 789.

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CARMICHAEL AND  
CLARKE,

CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND  
SURVEYORS.

4, Queen's Building, Hongkong.

5-5, CRANFORD ALLEY, SINGAPORE.

CARL ADDRESS  
CARMICHAEL, HONGKONG.  
CARMICHAEL, SINGAPORE.  
Codes Used:—Boat's 10th Edition;  
A.R.C. 4th and 5th Editions;  
Water's Standard; Watkins; Western  
Union and A.L.  
Telephone No. 232.

## Intimations.

"Murry" writing to "My Dear Dennis,"

unconscious himself in the "Weekly Irish

Times" in the following fashion:—

"If things goes on much longer as they're

down at the present, mankind won't have

time for anything better than public

speeches in the daily newspapers. After

bedding down the cow last night I com-

menced on one of those speeches, not

havin' time earlier in the day; as usual, and

I declare to you the clock struck midnight

and I got to the "peroration" (as I believe

they call the wind up). Oh, had luck to it

the House of Lords must go, and that's all

about it—for of the two evils I believe

these 10 foot long-by-the-column speeches

is the worst. Even Mister John Redmond

who I used to regard as a craftsman in

speechifying, is going beyond bounds, and

it has come to this pass that he can't

explain that Home Rule is Home Rule on

a British platform under five or six columns

in his own Press. And if you take up one

of these University Education Philosophical

reports in the papers, the desert of Shan-

raah is of small compass, and a fertile

plain as compared with any one of them.

Why the man that has his business to attend

to, or has his day's pay to earn, must

forever read these terrible speeches, o-

he'll find himself slap-bang in the Poor'

the role question." Anyhow, sometimes

when the papers come in with

these long whines of discourse—with

nothing to lighten the gloom, but an odd

"hear, hear," or "applause" throughout

their interminable length—I be tempted

to put the whole thing at the back of the

fire. But then, you see, the speech-makin'

is at the bottom of it all. "No long

speeches, no long reports"—that's true

logic. "It must be this 'drill-possessed'

Pitman shorthand" that's at the bed-root

of it all—this diabolical trick of being able

to write as fast as the fastest Marathon

champion platform-speaker can juggle off

his tongue, and have time also to interlard

the speech with corrections and additions.

I regard it as a great mistake that this

evil-devised system was ever born. The

world got on well enough without him in

all conscience; and I defy contradiction

when I say that it has got on nothin' the

better for him and his nefarious invention

for takin' all down that any fool speaker

with a gift of the gab has to say. And

mind you, the evils makin' bigger head-

way nor ever. Nearly every day that I'm

out for a bit of a walk I meet troops of

girls with their books and pencils coming

from shorthand classes—with which is

complicated type-writing, another misguided

discovery for the breedin' of trouble, and

circulatin' what, in the main, is nothin' but

useless knowledge. This may seem strong

language, but I'm fairly demented 'tattary

regular 'softenin' of the brain—with

unending speeches, from the Lordy-veto,

the higher finance, preferential tariffs,

philosophic dogma and dramatic censor-

ship, down to artful drizzle, and the

best way for gettin' rid of rats.

Volubility, and its accessory after the

fact, which is this Stenography, I regard as

the two twin evils of the age. 'After this

—but a long way comes Drink and

consumption and Sufferjettas. And faith

that reminds me, what kind of an

aggravated confusion of tongues would

we have if those lunatic wimin did

get the upper hand, and into Fairymint

as well as into the trousers—which, I

make no doubt, is their ultimate and

ultimate object? Fancy wanders on con-

jecture as to what their first legislative

proposal'd be. But I have no earthly

doubt but that a "loadin' issue" with

them would be an early Bill with some

such title as—"An Act to Lengthen the

Kellic Kilt, and Establish 'Sainie' as the

Common Garb of the Men of the Kingdom."

Oh, faith, if these Pankhursts, et al.,

got into power we'd be chippin' over one

another in petticoats by statute law, to a

man. And as for talk—why it's a new

double distilled, 'quick fire' shorthand

machinery—'ud be wanted to keep any decent

pace with the chin music of the New

Wimmin Brigade. No man has a better

respect for the ladies nor myself, and I

make no secret that I know their value tho'

never yoked, as it were, in double harness;

but a woman loses all value when found

layin' down the law on the political plat-

form. The only platform I'd consent to for

such is a railway platform, and an early

excursion train under full steam to waltz

her to some happy land in a frigid zone.

(Continued on Page 3)

SAVARESS'S  
SANTALIN  
CAPSULES

PURCHASERS OF OIL—CERTAINLY OF PURE  
WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING  
ASK FOR SAVARESS'S

## Intimations.



AN INVALUABLE LIQUID FOOD IN THE FORM  
OF A DELICIOUS BEVERAGE.  
FOR STRENGTH, PURITY AND NOURISHMENT.  
THERE IS NOTHING SUPERIOR TO BE FOUND.  
MEDICAL MAGAZINE



IS A HIGH-CLASS COCOA WITH A DISTINCTIVE  
FLAVOUR DEVELOPED BY A SPECIAL PROCESS.  
PREPARED BY CADBURY'S FROM THE  
FINEST COCOA.

Hongkong, December 10, 1907.

## VICTORIA REGATTA

Forty-ninth Meeting.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 1909.

UNDER the distinguished patronage of

H.E. the Governor (H.E. Major

General Broadwood, Commodore H. Lyon,

R.N., Hon. Sir Henry May, Hon. B. Basil

Taylor, etc., etc.

The Committee of the V.R.C. request

the pleasure of the Company of the Ladies

of Hongkong on SATURDAY, 11th in the

at 2 p.m. on the Reclamation, Bay View,

lively lent by Messrs Fenwick & Co.

Miss Helen Potts has kindly consented

to present the prizes immediately after the

race.

The Secretary's Lunch will leave the

Victoria Recreation Club at 12 noon; sharp.

Admission to enclosure and stand \$1.

Tickets may be obtained from the

steward, V.R.C. Soldiers and Sailors' Hall

price.

A Band will be in attendance.

Through tram service every few minutes.

E. L. BRIDGER,

Acting Hon. Sec.

Hongkong, December 1, 1909.

1499

## VICTORIA REGATTA

In connection with the above Regatta

there will be the following Yacht

Handicap Class. Open to R.E.Y.C. and

O.Y.C. 1st and 2nd Prizes.

One Design, E.H.K. Yacht Club. One

Prize.

One Design, O.Y.C. One Prize.

Harvard Yacht O.Y.C. One Prize.

Motor Boat, O.Y.C. One Prize.

Entrance fee \$2.00 per Boat.

Entries close TUESDAY, 7th December,

at 10 a.m. Secretary, V.R.C.

Hongkong, December 4, 1909.

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## REMO







POWELL'S

MOUTRIE

PIANOS

XMAS  
BAZAARNOW  
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## MARRIAGE.

MICHAEL DE TUNZELMANN.—On the 7th  
December, by special license at Hong-  
kong, MICHAEL DE TUNZELMANN, Esq.,  
Captain-Superintendent of Police, Kulan-  
su, Amoy, to MAUD AGATHA, widow of  
the late E. W. de Tunzelmann, Surgeon, R.N.

## MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.

Amusements.  
9 p.m.—Performance of the Merry-makers  
at the Theatre Royal.

## General Memoranda.

THURSDAY, December 8:—  
11 a.m.—Auction of English Jewellery,  
at Messrs. Hughes & Hough's  
Salerooms.  
3 p.m.—Auction of the Sainte Enlance  
Bazaar at City Hall.  
4 p.m.—Preliminary Heats for Victoria  
Regatta.FRIDAY, December 10:—  
11 a.m.—Auction of 28 cases Arrack in  
F. Godwin, Bowington.  
2.45 p.m.—Auction of Household Furni-  
ture at 2, Seaview Terrace, Quarry  
Bay.SATURDAY, December 11:—  
1 p.m.—Victoria Regatta.SUNDAY, December 12:—  
8 p.m.—Meeting of Victoria Recreation  
Club in the Club Gymnasium.SATURDAY, December 13:—  
1 p.m.—H.K.A.A.A. Sports Meeting,  
Kowloon Track.

## The China Mail.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1909.

## BRITISH POLITICS.

This political campaign upon which the British Isles are just entering promises to be one of great and absorbing interest. To many people we seem to have come to a parting of the ways, and whichever direction the nation takes will be fraught with momentous issues for many decades to come. Of course the Government and their supporters will make all the capital they can out of the recent action of the House of Lords in vetoing the Finance Bill, but we imagine that before the storm of the General Election subsides many other issues more pertinent than this will come to the front. For the country will never be able to conduct its affairs without some second chamber or other which shall exercise a revising and controlling influence upon the Lower Chamber immediately elected by the people. The House of Lords will remain, though the sooner it is reformed in various directions the better. The hereditary principle of membership, for instance, should be abolished and the Scottish and Irish (as of representative peers should be extended to the peerages which belong to the

United Kingdom. With the Duke selecting a certain number of their order, the Marquises, the Viscounts and the Barons doing the same in their degrees, with certain Lords directly nominated by the Crown by reason of eminence and public worth for life membership; with certain of the Bishops, Judges, Admirals, Generals and Colonial Governors entitled by virtue of their office on past occasions to seats in the Upper Chamber, and with representatives sent by the principal Dominions and Commonwealths ranged under the British Crown, we should have an ideal Senate for the Empire which would prove of the highest possible service. Indeed, we should not be surprised if some such scheme is eventually adopted, though naturally it will take some time to come to fruition, for we are an ancient land where custom slowly solidifies into law, and precedent is heaped upon precedent ere we finally determine upon what is due and proper in the manner of our goings forth and our comings in.

But the real and vital issue which the British electors have to face to-day is not a reformed House of Lords, but a reformed fiscal system. Can we go on increasing our Navy, paying out Old Age Pensions, extending the ramifications of the Civil Service with our present system of raising revenue? That is the question. The whole trend of modern legislation is to increase expenditure and so far we have been able to provide the money. But the shoe now pinches. How are we to find relief? Mr. Lloyd George and his school of thinkers are prepared to follow the lines laid down by Cobden and the old Manchester theorists in regard to maintaining the principle of Free Trade, and would raise the money required for the due administration of the country by increased taxes on land and property. Opposed to them is now a very considerable party, headed by the Chamberlains, who contend that the time has come for us to drop Free Trade and to go in for Tariff Reform. When Cobden forced his views to the front he and his fellow-thinkers were fully persuaded that they had found the road to Paradise and that the rest of the nations of the world, seeing the blessings accruing to Great Britain, would soon follow in her track. But their arguments, in the light of subsequent history, have proved most fallacious. Glance where we find outside Great Britain and we find every nation firmly entrenched behind tariff walls of more or less magnitude, and who will say that they are not quite right in maintaining that attitude? Circumstances were peculiarly favourable for England when she started on her career as a Free Trader, but the course of the last fifty years has completely changed them. The vast industrial empire of Germany, the ever-expanding industrialism of the United States, are factors that did not enter into the count in the days of Sir Robert Peel. To-day we have been shorn, one by one, of the advantages we held then, and now we stand entirely at the mercy of a world that has little love for us or our ways. The tide of pauperism is again steadily rising, and to-day one man in every thirty-seven in the United Kingdom is a pauper, while in London the proportion is one in thirty-two. Figures like these give one cause to pause and ask if the times are not crying out for some drastic remedy. The coming general elections may not solve the problem, but undoubtedly the country will be forced to look into the pros and cons, more seriously than it has ever done before. If disaster is not to be averted within the next decade.

The A. A. Aymeria, which arrived to-day from Vancouver under the command of Captain J. Boyd, experienced very heavy weather after leaving which continued almost until Yokohama was reached. A considerable amount of damage was done to the vessel, the steering gear, and the tarpaulins being completely carried away. One of the hatches was also torn off, and together the vessel was badly strained. Repairs were commenced at Yokohama.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

A voluntary service for Roman Catholics soldiers will be held to-morrow, 8th inst., at 9 a.m. in St. Joseph's Church (Fest of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary). Officers Commanding will afford facilities to men desirous of attending.

His Excellency the Governor, together with Major General Broadwood and staff, will dine at the officers' mess of the 13th Rajputa to-night. A guard of honour and the band will be in attendance to welcome the distinguished visitors on their arrival.

Under the auspices of the Hongkong United Service Institution a lecture, entitled "The Chinese Army," will be delivered by Lieut. J. de L. Simonds, R.G.A., on Friday, 10th December, at 5.45 p.m. at the Volunteer Drill Hall. His Excellency the Governor has kindly consented to take the chair.

Nine gamblers were fined \$2 each at the Magistrate's to-day while a native, for stealing an umbrella from the a.s. Hourdin was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment with hard labour. Three rickshaw coolies and one shop coolie were fined \$2 each for fighting. David Rankin, on unemployed ship's officer, was fined \$5 for being drunk in Peddar Street.

Following up their previous successes, the R. E. Pionie Club had a trip to Pionie Bay on Saturday afternoon. A large number of members and their friends took advantage of the opportunity and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. The outward voyage was enlivened considerably by a "Ditto" competition and the successful competitors were—S. S. Hyrons, A. S. C.—"Royal Engineer" ditto "Regulations Everlasting"; S. S. Starling, R. E.—"Pionie Bay," ditto "Ponderous Boulders"; S. S. Giddy, R. E.—"Pionie Club," ditto "Pleasure Certain"; S. S. Triton, R. E.—"Miner Sold," ditto "Melancholy Sacrifice." Arriving at the destination time was found to fully explore the beauties of the place, and the "photo-fests" had ample opportunity to take a few "snaps."

## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Station leave of absence has been granted to Captain S. L. P. Barter, 2nd Bn. The Buffs, from 20th to 30th December.

Superannuated Lieutenant David Percival, R.G.A., is restored to the establishment, vice C. H. Reynolds, appointed to the Hongkong-Singapore Battalion.

His Excellency General Sir J. Machado leaves by the a.s. Nippon Maru on Friday for Peking via Shanghai. It is understood that His Excellency will confer with the Wai-wai-pu with regard to the Macao boundary delimitation question.

## THE RICE CONTRACT CASE.

## Interesting Contentions.

Before the Acting Chief Justice (Hon. Mr. V. Rees Davies, K.C.) at the Supreme Court to-day, the case was further continued in which the Hang Sing Firm sued Messrs W. R. Loxley and Co. to recover the sum of \$4,274, being balance due for rice sold and delivered, while the defendants counter-claimed \$3,727.44, for breach by the plaintiffs of the terms of their contracts.

Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for the plaintiffs, while defendants were represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, who was instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (of Messrs Dennys and Bowley).

Mr. Slade was proceeding to indicate in detail the shipments of rice under the contract, when

His Lordship enquired whether Mr. Potter admitted that the number of bags was correctly set forth in the schedule.

Mr. Potter—Yes, my Lord, subject to proof that this was the actual rice received in South Africa. I will accept the shipment.

His Lordship—And this schedule applies to all the rice both in respect to the claim and the counter-claim?

Mr. Slade—Yes, my Lord.

Mr. Potter—All I am concerned with is that my friend should identify the rice we put on board here as the rice received in South Africa.

Mr. Slade—Do you admit the transshipments? We have all the bills of lading.

Mr. Potter—That is the whole point. I certainly do not. You want me to admit the transshipments, and then you will say that it was all right up to Durban it was all right up to Port Elizabeth.

Mr. Slade—If it was all right on board ship it was all right at Durban.

Mr. Potter—Not at all.

Mr. Slade—My friend is apparently contending that the rice was shifted on the route.

Mr. Potter—No I am not.

Mr. Slade—Do you admit the marks on the bags?

Mr. Potter—We admit that a Chinaman put some stencil marks on the bags, but we do not admit knowledge of what the marks were.

Mr. Slade—What blindest ignorance.

Mr. Potter—You may call it blindest ignorance or anything else.

Mr. Slade—Blind ignorance, we will call it.

Mr. Potter—Substantially any other advice you like, it is quite immaterial.

Later in the hearing, Mr. Slade produced some samples of rice, and asked—"Do you want to smell it, Mr. Potter?"

Mr. Potter—I want to have all the samples put in.

The samples were then put in and the case proceeded, being adjourned adjourned.

## THE COMING VISIT OF AMERICANS.

## Detailed Plans.

The time when Hongkong will be besieged by a body of American tourists numbering between 300 and 400 is rapidly approaching. They are due here by the a.s. Cleveland (18,000 tons) on December 23rd at one o'clock. As is known, the party is making a round-the-world tour, and the boat will be stopping here for three days, during which time the visitors will see all that is worth seeing in Hongkong, as well as at Canton.

Most elaborate and detailed arrangements have already been made for the convenience of the tourists, thanks largely to the energy and foresight of Mr. W. Farmer, who is the sole agent of those in charge of the cruise.

The visitors are divided into five parties, two of which, consisting of 320 persons, will land promptly on the arrival of the steamer. They will come ashore at Blake Pier and then leave at once on ten special tramcars for a 25-mile trip, which will take between 24 and 30 hours. First they will go to the Kennedy Town terminus, then to Happy Valley, where a short stop will be made, then to Shaukiwan, and from there to the Hongkong Hotel. There will be a guide on each car to explain and point out the different points of interest en route. The three other parties will land at 2 p.m. and will be taken in six blocks by rickshaws to Peak Tram Station, where special trams will take the passengers to the Peak for a grand view of the city and harbour. They will return by the Kennedy Town terminus, then to Happy Valley, where a short stop will be made, then to Shaukiwan, and from there to the Hongkong Hotel. There will be a guide on each car to explain and point out the different points of interest en route. The three other parties will land at 2 p.m. and will be taken in six blocks by rickshaws to Peak Tram Station, where special trams will take the passengers to the Peak for a grand view of the city and harbour. They will return by the Kennedy Town terminus, then to Happy Valley, where a short stop will be made, then to Shaukiwan, and from there to the Hongkong Hotel.

The same night the first batch of 24 persons will proceed to Canton by the a.s. Fatshan, while early the following morning a specially chartered river steamer will come alongside the Cleveland and take 200 more to Canton to see the sights. Several more leave by the a.s. Hongkong at 7.15 a.m. and 38 more at 9 p.m. The remaining 286 will have a special tram trip in Hongkong in the morning and will be free to go where they choose after lunch.

On Christmas day a batch of 200 will leave at 8 a.m. for Canton, while those who visited Canton on the previous day will finish the sights of Hongkong, having independent action in the forenoon and visiting the Peak later in the day.

On December 26th those who have not visited the Peak will do so, and the whole party will leave at 11 a.m. that day, when the Cleveland steams out of harbour.

## CANTON NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

CANTON, Dec. 4.

## MILITARY AFFAIRS.

A short railway is to be constructed just outside the East Gate, reaching to In Tong, where the quarters of the newly trained soldiers are situated. The object of the line is to facilitate the removal of stores, etc., to the camp and to allow the soldiers a easier access to Canton. The Pun Yit Magistrate has been ordered to buy up the land required as soon as possible so that the line may be begun without delay. Desertions from the ranks of the newly trained troops are numerous and to effect arrests a such deserters the detective force has been greatly increased. Most of the absconders try to get away by means of the railway and the detectives complain that very often the railway officials will not let them come into the stations as they have no uniform to show that they are on police service. To do away with this each official has been furnished with a kind of passport which will ensure his entry to all railway stations on presentation.

JAPANESE CONSUL ON TOUR.—The Japanese Consul at Canton has applied for a passport for himself, secretaries and servants as he intends to make a tour to various places in the two Kwongs. He also has requested the prefectural authorities at the different places to which he intends to go and the Viceroy has acceded to his wishes in all respects.

Several wealthy Straits Chinese are trying to corner the Kwongtung salt-market. They have commenced operations by offering the Government a sum of \$2,000,000 (though this is probably an exaggeration) a year in lieu of the salt tax and they intend to have granted an absolute monopoly. The chief salt merchants are somewhat perturbed by this news and have convened a meeting at which the Salt Commissioner has been invited to be present.

A terrible case of murder is reported from Shik Long in the Tung Kwon district. Five guests, looking very well to do, arrived at a boarding house called Tai Loy and were accommodated with rooms. The next morning the whole of the five guests were found dead in their beds. The bodies were so badly mutilated that it was not possible to find out who they were. It was thought that they might have come to Canton so the authorities here have been communicated with and all junkies arriving are being searched by the police. Up to the time of writing the murderer is still at large.

CANTON, December 6.

A large building was lately erected at Yim Po, in the Nam-Hoi district, for the purpose of exhibiting theatrical performances. As the advent of theatrical troupes in country places is nearly always a signal for the appearance of bandits and professional gamblers, the local magistrate ordered the shed to be pulled down and the troupe to depart. No one obeyed his orders and the troupe sent back a somewhat insolent message, pointing out that performances were given in Canton and other large towns and advising the magistrate to "live and let live." The official then sent a number of troops and forcibly pulled down the shed. The villagers are highly incensed and it is feared that trouble will ensue.

THE HANDS OF THE KIDNAPERS.—Prefecture seem to have made up their minds that the barracks for the newly-trained soldiers shall never reach completion. Sometimes ago I reported that these barracks had made a "raid" on the buildings under construction and had carried off everything they could lay their hands on. The building contractors and workmen are now in a state of terror of the hands of the kidnapers, and the prefecture seem to have decided to build a new barracks on a site which is more secure.

## NEW AMERICAN MINISTER TO CHINA.

## MR. CRANE'S SUCCESSION.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

LONDON, December 7.

Mr. William Calhoun has accepted the post of American Minister to Peking, in succession to Mr. Crane, who is still remembered, had his appointment cancelled just as he was leaving for Peking.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)  
LONDON, December 7.

A message from Washington states that Mr. Calhoun, an eminent lawyer, has accepted the post of American Minister to China.

## THE COMING ELECTION.

## LIBERALS HOPEFUL.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

Election preparations are being rapidly completed by both sides.

LONDON, December 7.

The Liberal newspapers say that the Trafalgar Square demonstration was a most hopeful indication of the extent to which the country has been aroused by the action of the Lords.

## THE CHINESE NAVAL COMMISSIONERS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, December 7.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners, headed by Prince Hsun, have inspected the Elswick works.

## AUSTRALIA'S NAVY.

## LOAN BILL PASSED.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, December 6.

A message from Melbourne states that the Naval Loan Bill, which provides for the raising of £3,500,000, has passed both Houses.

## SOMALILAND.

## FEARS OF TROUBLE.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, December 6.

Reuter's correspondent at Aden learns that there are indications of trouble in Somaliland, where the friendly natives have again been attacked by hostile tribes.

## DISTRUST OF DALAI LAMA.

(Wah Tei Yat Po's Service.)

PEKING, December 6.

H. E. Chao Erh-fang has telegraphed that the Dalai Lama has concluded a secret treaty with a certain foreign country, and has asked for instructions.

## MACAO DELIMITATION.

## CHINESE COLLECTING EVIDENCE.

(Wah Tei Yat Po's Service.)

PEKING, December 6.

The Board of Foreign Affairs is collecting evidence to establish the ownership by China of villages adjacent to Macao. This is being done as a preliminary step prior to meeting the Portuguese Minister to discuss the delimitation question.

## NO EXPERIMENT.

YOU are not experimenting when you buy Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. You are getting a preparation that has an established reputation for good backed by a third of a century's constant use. It is famous for the prompt cure of coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough. For sale by all chemists and druggists.



## JAPAN AND KOREA.

## SUGGESTED UNION OF COUNTRIES.

(Independent News Agency's Service to the China Mail.)

Tokyo, December 7.

The Isinkwai, the strongest political party in Korea, held a meeting on Sunday at which they passed a resolution to the effect that in the opinion of the party the amalgamation of Korea and Japan into one state is most desirable and expedient for the Korean people. Other political parties are eagerly awaiting the attitude of Japan on the question.

Every precaution is being taken by the Resident-General against any possible emergency which may arise as the outcome of the resolution.

The resolution of the party and their petition have met with only a cool reception by the people and the Government in Tokyo.

## THE MANCHURIAN SITUATION.

## RUMOUR OF NEW CHINO-JAPANESE AGREEMENT.

(Independent News Agency's Service to the China Mail.)

Tokyo, December 7.

A message has been received from Berlin that a new Chino-Japanese agreement has been concluded in regard to Manchurian affairs. The rumour has, however, been semi-officially denied here.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The orders of the day at the meeting to be held on Thursday next are:—

Third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Trade Marks.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Stamp Ordinance, 1901.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Code of Civil Procedure.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Squatters Ordinance, 1890.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to exempt Crown Leases granted in respect of Fecshore and Submerged Lands in the New Territories from certain conditions imposed under the Foreclosures and Sub Red Ordinance, 1901.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1903, and the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1905.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Order and Cleanliness Ordinance, 1897.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licences Ordinance, 1898, and the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1906, and to repeal the Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1902.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Tramway Ordinance, 1902, will not be proceeded with at this meeting.

## AMOI BOATING CLUB.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The official ceremony of the opening of the above newly formed club took place at 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon, at the premises at Leng Tau. There was quite a large attendance, although there was a cold North-East gale blowing at the time. Tea was very kindly provided by Mrs. Toms.

Mr. Toms, in a few extremely well chosen and fitting words, briefly set forth the aims and objects of the club, after which the unfurling of the flag, accompanied by the ever-present crackers, took place.

A few of the members then took out the boats for a short spin, showing in a very material and convincing manner that the club is in a live state. The first boat was manned by Messrs. Onnet and Robertson.

With Fowler cox, the second manned by Messrs. Arnold and Hunter with a cox, and the third by Messrs. Johnson and Jockland with Mudie cox.

A GOOD HOUSEHOLD LISTMENT.

WHEAT, a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm is kept in the house the pains of burns and acids may be promptly relieved, and bruises, quickly healed, swellings promptly reduced and rheumatism and neuralgia robbed of their terrors. In fact, for the household use, it is just what a household should have, and it should be provided with. For sale by all chemists and druggists.

YOU are not experimenting when you buy Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. You are getting a preparation that has an established reputation for good backed by a third of a century's constant use. It is famous for the prompt cure of coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough. For sale by all chemists and druggists.



## WANCHAI WESLEYAN CHURCH.

## Missionary Anniversary.

The anniversary commenced on Saturday night in the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home with a prayer meeting. On Sunday morning the Rev. T. W. Scholes, M.A., preached, and at night the Rev. Webb Anderson, M.D., of Fatsan, preached on "The Unsearchable riches of Christ." There were considerably over 300 persons in the Church and it was an inspiring service. Some 180 sat down to tea in the Church last evening, and this was followed by the annual meeting. There were about 200 persons present. Mr. J. C. Joughin took the chair.

After the Rev. T. W. Scholes had led the meeting in prayer, the Rev. J. A. A. Baker gave an outline of the growth of the work carried on by the Wesleyan Missionary Society for the past 96 years. The Methodist Churches in Canada and Australia, which are among the first in point of numbers and influence in those Colonies, were started by missionaries of this Society; now they are self-supporting and have missions of their own. At present the Society has 331 missionaries working in all parts of the world; the success in the foreign field has turned the increase in Church members in Great Britain into an increase. At Wanchai the missionary spirit is very strong. The "Foreign Field" (the monthly missionary publication of the Society), which is sold with an inset containing 6 pages of printed matter recording the doings of the Church and the Sailors' and Soldiers' Home, has, through the efforts of Mr. Makham, a circulation of 100 monthly, a large number of those being taken by sailors and soldiers.

The Chairman, Mr. Joughin, then gave an address. He said that before he came to Hongkong he was strongly prejudiced against missionaries, and he had formed his opinions from reading men. He had found that most of these men had scarcely ever been off the sea front and had picked up and believed almost any idle story that was circulated. How easy it was to come to China and see practically nothing of missionaries and their work. He had been to North China and wherever he went he tried to find out the truth about missionaries and their work. He had seen enough in Hankow alone to convince him of the good work that was being done. Mr. Joughin then turned to the work of the Society in the East. He said that the work of the Society in the East was not to make missionaries out of the people of the East, but to make the people of the East missionaries. He said that the work of the Society in the East was to make the people of the East missionaries. He said that the work of the Society in the East was to make the people of the East missionaries.

The Rev. Webb Anderson, M.D., who has charge of the large hospital in Fatsan, then addressed the meeting. He said that the work of the Society in the East was to make the people of the East missionaries. He said that the work of the Society in the East was to make the people of the East missionaries. He said that the work of the Society in the East was to make the people of the East missionaries.

## DISASTROUS FIRES AT CANTON.

## Much Property Destroyed.

Within the last two days, writes our Canton correspondent under date, there have been no less than four great fires at Canton. The first broke out in a medicine store just inside the Ng Lin Moon. Over six buildings were totally destroyed, and the flames even forced their way through the Great Gate. There was much consternation in the locality and for a time it was feared that the whole district was in imminent danger of destruction. The cause of the fire is said to be due to a man sleeping with a lamp inside his mosquito net. The lamp fell over and ignited the curtains and thus started the blaze.

On the same day a fire broke out in a grocer's shop at Shap Tak Po and in a very short time eleven houses were in ruins.

## "THE MERRYMAKERS."

Under the direction of Mr. Leonard Davis the Merry-makers made their first appearance at Hongkong on Monday evening when they completed the boards at the Theatre Royal. The programme opened with a spirited rendering of "Coming thro' the Rye" by Miss Alice Hope, who was encoored. The musical pieces were distinctly good and scored a great success for their talented performers on a number of musical instruments. As an equilibrium, Zeno is truly marvellous and his feats were deservedly applauded. Mr. Harry London was twice encoored for his amusing rendering of "Sing me to sleep." There will be complete changes of programme on Wednesday and Friday evenings, while Saturday evening will be devoted to a farewell night.

## SPORTING.

## Hongkong A.A.A. Meeting.

The Hongkong Amateur Athletic Association's annual sports are to take place at Kowloon on Saturday, December 18th. There are eight events on the programme, and as five of these—the high jump, long jump, 150 yards hurdles, half mile, and one mile—are to decide the championships for 1909, some really snappy should be seen. Especially should this be so now that the running will be over the splendid cinder track available. Some record times will probably be made. It is hoped that the meeting will be largely patronised by local sportsmen.

## Polo.

The first round of the Quarterly Tournament ended in the Buffs beating the Club Team after a good game by 1 to nil. The teams were as follows:—  
Buffs:—Lt. Potter, Lt. Green, Lt. Crookenden, Major Eaton.  
Club:—Lt. Davidson, Commodore Lyon, Capt. Bell, R.E., Capt. Beethotte.

## Lawn Bowls Championship.

The competition for the lawn bowls championship of the Colony is rapidly drawing to a close. The latest result is the defeat of W. Russell (Kowloon) by A. Blowsy (Civil Service), which was contested last night on the Police Ground. Russell, who is regarded as one of the best and most consistent players in the Colony, made a bold bid for victory after a poor start. At one time the score was 15 to 5 against him, but then he crept up gradually until the score was 19 to 18 in favour of the Civil Service man. In the last end Russell lay two and looked like winning, but a fast, straight shot from his opponent displaced both woods and gave Blowsy one point and game. It was a fine contest, always full of interest. Blowsy now qualifies for the semi-final.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## AN EFFECTUAL COMPLAINT.

(To the Editor of "THE CHINA MAIL.")  
DEAR SIR,—I am greatly indebted to the China Mail, and I feel confident that the residents of Robinson Road also are, for your insertion of my letter last evening complaining of the neglect of the contractor in watering that thoroughfare during this dry season. The appearance of the correspondence in your paper has had the desired effect, for already the road has been watered—it was done early this morning.

I am told that the surveying contractor has already received a clear profit of between \$20,000 and \$30,000 on a capital of about \$4,000 on his triennial contract (expiring at the end of the current month) with the Sanitary Department. How much the watering contractor has made on his contract would be interesting to know.

Retrenchment by the Sanitary Department without making provision for special European officers to see to the carrying out of the duties by the various contractors is false economy, and if no such provision has been made, the result is only to put money into the pockets of contractors at the expense of sanitation.

Contractors most probably have keener ears and sharper eyes than the members of the Sanitary Board, for no sooner had the complaint appeared in your newspaper than the water was turned off. This case affords food for consideration by the energetic unofficial members at present serving on the Sanitary Board.—Yours faithfully,  
A. RATEPAYER.

## DISASTROUS FIRES AT CANTON.

## Much Property Destroyed.

Within the last two days, writes our Canton correspondent under date, there have been no less than four great fires at Canton. The first broke out in a medicine store just inside the Ng Lin Moon. Over six buildings were totally destroyed, and the flames even forced their way through the Great Gate. There was much consternation in the locality and for a time it was feared that the whole district was in imminent danger of destruction. The cause of the fire is said to be due to a man sleeping with a lamp inside his mosquito net. The lamp fell over and ignited the curtains and thus started the blaze.

On the same day a fire broke out in a grocer's shop at Shap Tak Po and in a very short time eleven houses were in ruins.

The third conflagration occurred early on the following day in a shop near the Yau Lan Gate. The flames spread with amazing rapidity and attacked no less than three streets. Sixty-nine houses were totally destroyed and it is feared that many persons have lost their lives. On the evening of the same day a pawnshop called "Wing Cheung" was found to be ablaze but this was quickly put out and only the goods in two or three shops were destroyed.

The superstitious folk of the city are attributing these disasters to the fact that the illuminations in honour of the Fire God have been greatly curtailed by the police this year. On the other hand, there are not wanting those who attribute the fires to arson; many of these buildings are insured and the New Year is approaching. The real cause is doubtless the utter carelessness which the Chinese exhibit in the use of oil lamps. They rarely clean the lamps and in many cases the oil is turned on high, that smoke and flame issue from the chimneys. Often naked flames are burning near bed curtains and other inflammable material, and this, in conjunction with the constant burning of incense paper and candles, accounts for the great majority of the fires.

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## THE LURE OF THE UNKNOWN.

## A Book of Notable Adventures.

The Heart of the Antarctic, being the story of the British Antarctic Expedition 1907-1908, by E. H. Shackleton, C.V.O. (with an introduction by Hugh Robert Mill, D. Sc.), an account of the first journey to the South Magnetic Pole by Professor T. W. Edgeworth David, F.R.S., London, Mr. Wm. Heinemann, 31 Bedford Square. Price, 3s. 6d. Two vols.

These very handsomely produced crown quarto volumes, with their wealth of coloured plates, photographs and sketches, illustrating the adventures of Mr. E. H. Shackleton and his companions in their quest of the South Pole will undoubtedly be "the book" of the autumn publishing season. For they tell a tale of heroic endurance most cheerfully borne and particularly arduous conditions in the interests of one of the noblest ambitions that can stir the heart of man. And we find with what many a British lad might have the more delight of finding the book among his Christmas Gifts, for a more heroic saga has seldom been written by descendants of the Northmen whose ships were the very first to brave the rigours of the icy regions.

"Men go out into the void spaces of the world for various reasons," says Mr. Shackleton in his opening chapter. "Some are actuated simply by a love of adventure, some have the keen thirst for scientific knowledge, and others again are drawn away from the trodden paths by 'the lure of little voices,' the mysterious fascination of these factors which took Shackleton back to the Antarctic, for although he had been in the land before the conclusion of the Discovery expedition, he had a very keen desire to see more of the vast continent that lies stark and grim amid the Antarctic snows and glaciers.

Exploration of the Southern polar regions really began with the second voyage of Capt. Cook, the circumnavigator, who between 1773 and 1775 reached 11° 10' South, or 1,130 miles from the Pole. In 1819 a Russian government expedition was sent there, but accomplished very little, and this was followed by private enterprises of London merchants, American sealing captains, French and American naval officers and others, all of whom brought back some further knowledge of the inhospitable, wind-swept regions. In 1841 Capt. Ross and Capt. Crozier, in the Erebus and Terror, made their famous attempt at solving the Antarctic mystery, discovering the two volcanoes—once extinct, the other very active—which are named after their ships, and penetrating to 78° 4' South. A year later the same expedition, returning to the frozen sea, made 78° 11' or 710 miles of the Pole. In 1875 H. M. S. Challenger, on her famous voyage of scientific investigation, made a dash for the Antarctic circle, but being an unprotected vessel had to give up at 68° 40' S. Then a German expedition tried its luck, to be followed by a small squadron of Dundee whalers, bent on finding out whether the whale and seal industry was worth while. Next came the Norwegian expedition under Borchgrevink, in 1895, followed by the Belgica, under Lieut. de Gerlache, in 1898. The great expedition of the Discovery, in command of Capt. Scott, left Lyttelton in December, 1901, and they wintered four hundred miles further south than any man had wintered before. They reached, after incredible hardships, latitude 82° 17' South and then were forced to return. But they had accomplished much and added considerably to the scientific knowledge of the region traversed.

The present expedition organised by Mr. Shackleton was entirely a private affair in its inception, and not until he reached New Zealand was help of a financial nature forthcoming from any Government. Hence it will be understood that the great consideration weighing with him was that of economy and then to add to his troubles some of his backers had to cry off owing to the American financial panic. Yet perhaps this was not so very much a drawback. It made him so very more attentive to detail and enabled him in the end to know that nothing essential had been crowded out by superfluities of any kind. Of course it would have been better to have been able to command more money, to have been in a position, for instance, to have purchased a more suitable vessel than the forty-year-old whaler Nimrod and so to have housed the scientific staff more comfortably. But the Nimrod served the purpose, with all her limitations, and will henceforth fill an honourable place in the history of polar exploration.

The success of such an Expedition as this depends greatly upon the care spent on the preliminary details, and in reading the narrative we can not help but come to the conclusion that its Commander was one of those born leaders of men to whom attention to detail comes as second nature. The care which he displayed in provisioning the ship and providing the necessary scientific outfit was likewise evinced in the manner in which he selected his staff—in everything he was a man who looked far ahead. Over four hundred applications reached him and in the end he gathered together a most harmonious band of fifteen devoted followers—this is not including the officers and crew of the Nimrod. The Nimrod was towed from Lyttelton to the ice-barrier in order to save coal, and the fortnight's voyage was anything but pleasant. She was deeply overladen and overcrowded, and within 24 hours of leaving New Zealand ran into bad weather. So much water was shipped that no-one on board had dry clothes for over a couple of dreary weeks, while two of the Manchurian ponies succumbed to the rigours of the voyage. Arrived at the ice, the towing ship cast off and the Nimrod, forced her way south to McMurdo Sound. Here, about at the base of Mr. Erebus, they pitched winter quarters at Cape Royal, 20 miles further south than had the Discovery men. Amid great difficulties they

loaded their stores and equipment, almost losing the major portion by the sudden breaking loose of the ice block on which they had been temporarily placed; and even when the horses had been drawn up the cliff and hauled to the hut, a blizzard swept down, before they had been stowed away and to this day the only case of beer which the expedition possessed lies buried deep under a ceiling of ice, for its whereabouts were never discovered. Eight Manchurian ponies were landed, but four soon killed themselves by inordinate eating of gravel which had been sprayed by seawater—there is much original sin in every China pony regarding the impossible things it likes to eat, as we in Hongkong know full well, but those which Shackleton took south were perfect demons so far as depraved appetites and sheer devilry are concerned. Still the four that survived served him well in his great dash to the Pole. The winter of 1908 was passed in active work around the hut, though before darkness finally set in, a small party managed to climb over eleven thousand feet to the top of Mount Erebus and examine its wonderful crater. This in itself was no mean feat, as all Alpine climbers will freely acknowledge. In the spring and early summer of 1908-9 three sledging parties left winter quarters; one went south and attained the most southerly latitude ever reached by man—latitude 88° 23' south, one hundred miles off the Pole; another reached the South Magnetic Pole for the first time, and a third surveyed the mountain ranges west of McMurdo Sound. The southern sledge party consisted of Mr. Shackleton, Mr. Adams, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Wild. After very careful calculations they provided rations to the extent of 34 oz. of food per man per day. These, along with scientific instruments, extra clothes, tents, etc., were packed on four sledges drawn by four Manchurian ponies. One by one the ponies succumbed to the hardships of the journey, three were shot, the other disappeared down an enormous crevasse on the biggest glacier ever traversed by mortal man, and was never seen again. This was a great loss, for the little party had calculated on eating its flesh to eke out their provisions, and so they suffered very considerably from hunger as the journey came to an end. We have not space to give details of that wonderful dash to the south, of the terrible sufferings of the party, of the marvellous things they saw in that almost lifeless land, of the wearisome climb up the never-ending glacier to the lofty wind-dereated plateau, over 11,000 feet high, on which the South Pole will eventually be found, but we recommended our readers to get the book and read the story for themselves. From start to finish they were in peril: on the glacier from the crevasses and ice ridges; on the plateau from insufficient clothing and lack of food; on the return flight from dysentery brought on through eating the meat from the last pony that was shot—the poor animal was slaughtered when he had come to its last gasp, and the torments of extreme fatigue undoubtedly diseased the meat. But the party went through in the end—though by the narrowest of margins, and they will carry their scars till death.

They started on October 28, 1908, and it was not till February 23 in the following year that Shackleton and Wild reached the winter quarters, only to find them deserted. It is interesting to note that on this terrible journey four little books were carried to relieve the tedium while sheltering from blizzards. Shackleton had Shakespeare's Comedies, Marshall had Borrow's "The Bible in Spain," Adams had Young's "Travels in France" and Wild "Sketches by Box." If any of them ever attempt a similar journey again they will load up more sticks of chocolate in the place of cheese; otherwise the lesson of Antarctic diet has been learned, the only thing is to increase the quantity. They were always hungry and to while away the time beguiled each other with descriptions of the feasts they would indulge in should they ever return alive. Snow blindness also afflicted them very seriously, despite all precautions, while owing to their abandoning at one depot all their superfluous clothing to spare fatigue when they reached the high plateau they were insufficiently clad. It will be noted that the motor car from which so much was expected hardly figures at all in the dash to the Pole. The machine was of use in making short dashes from the winter quarters to the snow of the Barrier proving an almost insuperable obstacle. The other expeditions were also full of dangerous adventures, for Death looked into the faces of the men more than once. Even at the last there was a possibility of a great disaster, for Shackleton's southern party was so late in returning to their base that they had been given up for lost, and the Nimrod was thinking of returning to civilization and organizing a relief expedition later to search for them, when Shackleton and one companion, the other two were left in camp a day behind—made the coast and attacked the ship's attention; while David's party, which found magnetic Pole were late and narrowly missed being rescued. We have not space for a description of the scientific results of the expedition; they were many and important, but we imagine that it will be the human part of the story which will make most appeal to the general reading public—and this is told in plain, unvarnished words by the leader, who writes of his own: "I owe to them a debt of gratitude that I can hardly find words to express. I realise very fully that without their faithful service and loyal co-operation under conditions of extreme difficulty success in any part of our work would have been impossible."

Apart from the great theme of the various narrative, readers will derive much pleasure from the beautiful pictures which all the two volumes, particularly the coloured sketches from the charming pencil of Mr. Mackenzie—these are veritable gems of art.

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SUB-DIVISIONS IN THE

COLONIAL CEMETERY.

Correspondence was submitted at a meeting

of the Sanitary Board this afternoon

relative to the sub-divisions in the Colonial

Cemetery.

Mr. A. Shalton Hooper minutes—I think

civil servants should be treated as ordinary

residents and no distinction made.

Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewitt—I think the

naval and military authorities should have

their own sections as new arrivals often

like to visit and care for the graves of

their late comrades. I do not know

whether there is any special demand for

a children's section; in the "rat" there

should be no distinction except as far as

people, even in death, are divided by their

religious convictions. This is met by

providing each denomination with its own

cemetery.

Hon. Mr. P. N. H. Jones—Section 11

states what the sub-divisions are to be

the only question before the Board is

whether the area suggested for such sub-

divisions should be approved.

The President—I agree with the Director

of Public Works, the sections have already

been settled. The only question is what

portion of the cemetery shall be allotted to

each section.

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MACDONALD	March 19	CHINA	March 26	Monday
DELTA	March 19	MARITIMA	April 2	Monday
DELTA	March 19	CHINA	April 9	Monday
DELTA	March 19	MARITIMA	April 16	Monday
DELTA	March 19	CHINA	April 23	Monday
DELTA	March 19	MARITIMA	April 30	Monday
DELTA	March 19	CHINA	May 7	Monday
DELTA	March 19	MARITIMA	May 14	Monday
DELTA	March 19	CHINA	May 21	Monday
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3559, 3561, 3563, 3565, 3567, 3569, 3571, 3573, 3575, 3577, 3579, 3581, 3583, 3585, 3587, 3589, 3591, 3593



## WEATHER REPORT.

The following notice is issued from the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 7th at 11.55 a.m.—The barometer has risen moderately on the N.E. coast of China, and over Japan except in E. Hokkaido, the depression having passed to the Pacific.

Barometric changes are slight in the South.

Pressure is high over N. China and Manchuria.

It remains low over the S. Philippines and adjacent waters.

Fresh monsoon may be expected in the Formosa Channel, and the N. part of the China Sea.

Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inches.

Forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-morrow:—

1.—Hongkong and Neighbourhood: N.W. winds, fresh; fine.

2.—Formosa Channel: Same as No. 1.

3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lantau: Same as No. 1.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan: Same as No. 1.

5.—North coast of China: Same as No. 1.

6.—North coast of China: Same as No. 1.

7.—North coast of China: Same as No. 1.

8.—North coast of China: Same as No. 1.

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47.—North coast of China: Same as No. 1.

## To-day's Advertisements

## 'SOLIGNUM.'

A Perfect Preservative Stain for Wood, Stone and Brickwork. It protects against decay, fungus, dry rot, the ravages of insects and vermin (especially white ants) and the action of the weather. 'Solignum' really does what is claimed for it, as may be seen from the testimonials of the Governments of India, the Sudan, etc.

In Drums and Barrels of Various Colours.

Prospectus and all information from

SIEMSEN & CO.,

(Machinery Dept.) SOERABAYA, SOLE AGENTS.

Hongkong, December 7, 1909.

## HUNG ON &amp; CO.,

FURNITURE STORE.

DEALERS IN UPHOLSTERY AND IMPORTERS OF EUROPEAN

GOODS OF ALL KINDS.

Electro Silver Plated, Iron, and Glass Ware, Cutlery and Hollow Ware.

Manufacturers of High-Class Taskwood Furniture.

Inspection of our stock respectfully invited.

ADDRESS: 17A, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

Lately occupied by A. CARR & CO.

Hongkong, February 23, 1909.

## FOR SALE.

FOR SALE on TO LET.

DERRINGTON, Peak Road.

SHORNLIFFE, Garden Road.

For particulars apply to

C. SCHROEDER,

of GARDNER BROTHERS & CO.,

King's Building, Third Floor.

Hongkong, June 8, 1909.

## FOR SALE.

ONE full size Barrington and Watts

BILLIARD TABLE.

In good condition.

Apply to

GEO. P. LAMBERT,

Doddrell Street.

Hongkong, September 24, 1908.

## FOR SALE.

FROM LONDON TO PEKING.

ADDRESS SIBERIA IN 18CS.

Price .....50 cents

## Dentistry.

DR. CHAS. FONG,

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ROOM NO. 3, FIRST FLOOR,

(Opposite Post Office).

American graduate with twenty years experience in

the practice of dentistry, specialist for treat-

ment of teeth.

Hongkong, April 16, 1909.

## DR. HARRY FONG,

AMERICAN DENTIST.

41, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Hongkong, November 18, 1908.

## S. I. N. T. I. N. G.

Surgeon Dentist.

No. 14, D'ARVILLE STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE

Consultation Free.

## EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, December 7, 1909.

On London: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On demand: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 30 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 60 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 90 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

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On 150 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 180 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 210 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 240 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 270 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 300 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

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On 780 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

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On 900 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

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On 990 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1020 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1050 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1080 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1110 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1140 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1170 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1200 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

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On 1470 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1500 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

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On 1560 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1590 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1620 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

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On 1680 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1710 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1740 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1770 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1800 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1830 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1860 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1890 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1920 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1950 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 1980 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2010 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2040 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2070 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2100 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2130 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2160 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2190 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2220 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2250 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

On 2280 days sight: Bank Wh... ..181/2

## SHIPPING

## ARRIVALS.

December 8.

Subs. British str. 412, W. Almond.

Maile December 8, 11 p.m. and General.

Savay, Tones & Co.

Tienchua, British steamer, 1,340 G.

Edwards, Saigon Nov. 30, Rio and Gen.

U. B. G. K.

Perkut, Dutch steamer, 1,056, Swart,

from Singapore, OIL—ASIAN PATROL CO.

December 7.

British str. 658, J. W. Evans,

Swallow December 6, General—DUNLOP

STEAMSHIP CO. LD.

Siman, German str., 998, R. F. F. F.

Bangkok Nov. 20, and Swallow Dec. 6,

Rio and Gen.—DUNLOP & SWIN.

America, British str., 2,790, J. Boyd,

Yankee Oct. 23, General—DUNLOP &

CO. LD.

## DEPARTURES.

December 7.

Ernest Siman, for Saigon and Marseilles.

Yankee, for Canton.

Swallow, for Saigon.

Siman, for Hongkong.

Chik, for Hongkong.

Silhoueta, for Shanghai.

Yankee, for Hongkong.

Swallow, for Saigon.

Siman, for Hongkong.

Chik, for Hongkong.

Silhoueta, for Shanghai.

Yankee, for Hongkong.

Swallow, for Saigon.

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